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# WAIPA HERITAGE COUNCIL

## MINUTES 20 SEPTEMBER 2007

*Minutes of a meeting of the Waipa Heritage Council held in Committee Room 1, Waipa District Council Offices, 101 Bank Street, Te Awamutu on 20 September 2007 commencing at 10.00am.*

### **1 MEMBERS**

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Waipa District Councillor, Barbara Taranaki (Chairperson)

His Worship the Mayor, Alan Livingston – 10.20am – 12.03pm  
Stephanie Lambert – Te Awamutu Museum  
Eris Parker – Cambridge Museum/Cambridge Historical Society  
Bev Dean – Cambridge Museum/Cambridge Historical Society  
Heather Garrett – Te Pahu District  
Mary Hurst – Te Awamutu Historical Society

#### **In Attendance**

Chief Executive (JC Inglis) – until 10.45am, Group Manager Policy & Strategy (R McNeil) – until 10.45am, (Project Manager – Heritage Development and Reserves Planning (T Roxburgh), Secretary (C Plowright)

**Public** – Nil

### **2 APOLOGIES**

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#### **RESOLVED**

*That apologies for absence be received from Annie Fullerton, Jennie Gainsford, Alan Hall, Gail Henry, Max Quirk, Sabina Owen and Neville Ritchie.*

H Garrett/M Hurst

[Item 5.3 was taken at this point and then the meeting returned to the order of business as stated in the agenda at 10.45am.]

### **3 LATE ITEMS**

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Nil.

### **4 CONFIRMATION OF ORDER OF MEETING**

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File: 65-11-02

#### **RESOLVED**

*That the order of the meeting be confirmed.*

B Dean/S Lambert

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### 5 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

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File: 65-11-02

**Minutes of Meeting held on 19 July 2007 were included in the agenda.**

#### **RESOLVED**

*That the minutes of the meeting of the Waipa Heritage Council held on 19 July 2007, having been circulated, be taken as read and confirmed as a correct record.*

M Hurst/E Parker

#### **Matters Arising –**

##### **5.1 Annual Works Programme**

WHC members were reminded that a list of heritage works/projects was compiled at the last meeting and it was suggested WHC members bring back a list of the five highest priority projects for discussion at the September meeting. The following comments were made on each of the proposed projects -

##### **Heritage Week**

There is merit in lifting Waipa's heritage profile through a heritage week but this isn't something Council is looking into at this time. To some extent this is being achieved through the heritage newsletter.

##### **Interpretive Signage at the Hingakaka Battle Site**

Council has no plans to drive this project at this stage. Some interest could be generated during the District Plan review process.

##### **Interpretation/development of Orakau Battle Site**

It is understood Council is driving the development of this area and some recreational funding is going to be put into it.

##### **Interpretation/recognition for Tokanui Hospital**

Ownership of this site is subject to a Treaty of Waitangi settlement at present so it would be inappropriate to consider any work there at this stage.

##### **Interpretation/recognition for Dairy Industry**

Waipa already has some interpretation at Anchor Pukekura and there is already a dairy heritage centre at Mystery Creek.

##### **Interpretation/development of Matakitaki Pa Site**

This is being driven by Council.

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### **Interpretation/development of Ohaupo Redoubt Site**

Council has no plans to develop this area.

### **Further development of Alexandra East Redoubt Site**

There is little scope for development there at present other than repairs to the fence and some tidying up of the site.

### **Resiting of Climax Steam Engine**

The Heritage Council would appreciate the opportunity to comment on the level of restoration, future siting and interpretation of the engine.

### **Interpretive Signage at Mission House**

It is understood that this had been completed.

### **Interpretive Signage/look out point on Picquet Hill**

Council has no plans to develop this area.

### **Storage/service buildings**

The new Museums and Heritage Manager will be working on this.

### **Heritage Overlays**

Planning staff have talked about having these for specific sites that have natural, cultural and historic value. There are a number of opportunities (Rangioawhia, viewing corridors, heritage precinct in Pirongia) and it needs to be built upon during the next few years during the District Plan review process.

### **Development of Police Museum, Kihikihi**

Council is not involved with this development and it is being driven by a community trust.

### **Update of D Holman Study of Heritage Buildings in Waipa**

It was suggested that a booklet similar to that produced for Hamilton City Council by Venetia Sherson (through WINTEC) could be worthwhile. Heather Garrett said she would bring a copy of the Hamilton City booklet to the next meeting.

### **Building registrations (NZHPT)**

This is being addressed by NZHPT.

It was mentioned that Major Jackson's house is on the market again and parts of the building are still in a very bad condition. Mr Roxburgh was asked to check whether the conditions imposed by Council through its building consent have been complied with. It was noted that the owner of the building also has obligations to NZHPT to maintain the building because of its historic registration.

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### **St Paul's Curtellege**

It was felt Rangaioawhia needs some focus and protecting its iconic reviews should be addressed at the front end of the District Plan review process.

Mr Roxburgh said, in order to make some progress, it would be preferable if the list could be honed down to two-three. Following discussion it was felt the booklet to update the information on heritage buildings (Venetia Sherson), heritage trail signage and the issues relating to the District Plan review deserve higher priority than the other projects, especially as some of them are already being progressed by Council. Mayor Livingston suggested that the heritage trail signage should be done in conjunction with a re-run of the heritage trail pamphlets to ensure all the information is correct.

Mr Roxburgh suggested that letters be sent to Council's Planning Services Manager and Asset Manager Recreation highlighting the planning/site related issues identified during the discussion.

### **5.2 NZHPT Register**

**Letter to John Inglis dated 26 July 2007, Letter from NZHPT dated 2 August 2007 and list of Waipa District Council Registered Historic Places was included in the agenda.**

As a result of discussion held at the last meeting a letter was sent to Council's Chief Executive, John Inglis, voicing the Heritage Council's concerns about this issue. Since then a letter has been received from NZHPT advising that just 12 items have been taken off the Register for Waipa District and not 74 as reported in the minutes. However, as this was what was said at the meeting it was felt that an amendment to the minutes was inappropriate.

### **5.3 Storage of Archaeological Material**

**Letter from Council's Group Manager Policy and Strategy, Ross McNeil, dated 24 July 2007 was included in the agenda.**

Council's Chief Executive and Group Manager Policy and Strategy, Ross McNeil, gave an overview of Council's involvement with the District's museums, including the issues raised at the last meeting relating to storage of archaeological material. They also spoke about the recruitment of a Museums and Heritage Manager.

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Bev Dean said the Cambridge Historical Society is fully in favour of Cambridge Museum becoming part of Council's operations, in the same way as the Te Awamutu Museum, and is anxious to move forward. She asked if a timeline could be provided for when the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Council and the Historical Society is likely to be signed. Mr McNeil said the new Museums Manager would be working on some additional policies concerning acquisition that would need to be included in the MOU.

Mr McNeil said the Museums Manager would be working in a much broader context than managing the District's museums and would be involved in managing, facilitating, enhancing and promoting heritage. He said that would take in other organisations and heritage initiatives in the community.

With respect to the storage issues raised at the last meeting, Mr McNeil said an acquisitions policy would allow the various governance bodies to determine how their collections are to be managed in future and to dispose of any items they feel are not required knowing there is a policy to support that decision.

### **5.4 Matakitaki Pa**

Heritage Council members were advised that meetings have been held with Alexy Simmons (the archaeologist contracted to prepare the Conservation Plan) and a work programme and timeline has been agreed.

### **5.5 Orakau Battle Site**

There was no progress to report since the last meeting.

### **5.6 Heritage Newsletter**

Heritage Council members were advised that the first issue of the Heritage Newsletter has been distributed and mixed feedback has been received. Staff are now looking for contributions or ideas for the next edition.

It was suggested that staff work towards sending future newsletters out with the rates demand to prevent it getting confused with junk mail. Another suggestion was that it should be smaller, and therefore more manageable, with a higher focus on built heritage. A shorter, "punchier" and more topical format was also suggested. Another option suggested was to convey that information through the local newspapers on a regular basis as opposed to a newsletter. Stephanie Lambert said the Museums' historical photograph collections could be put to good use in the newsletters.

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### 6 MEMBERS REPORTS

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**6.1 Waipa District Council** (Mayor Alan Livingston, Councillor Barbara Taranaki)

Mayor Livingston asked members to give consideration to nominees for another Heritage Awards ceremony to be held in 2008.

**6.2 Te Awamutu Museum** (Stephanie Lambert)

Since the last meeting the new Education Facilitator (Alan Reilly) has started work at the Museum. He will be co-ordinating the essay competition from next year. A volunteer is currently helping with research work once a week. A display of the winners and selected entries from the Waipa Home of Champions Photo Competition is planned to be shown during the SCREAM festival. Stephanie said she has been working on digitising the written material from the Te Awamutu Historical Society and looking at ways of re-printing the "Footprints" that are out of stock. Stephanie is keen to source editions 1,3 and 4 of the "Bulletins" and if members have copies she can scan it would be appreciated.

**6.3 Te Awamutu Historical Society** (Mary Hurst)

Mary Hurst said the Pirongia Historic Visitor Centre has agreed to store the remaining copies of Footprints. The balance of funds from Footprints has been handed over to the Te Awamutu Museum Trust Board.

**6.4 Cambridge Museum/Cambridge Historical Society** (Eris Parker, Bev Dean, Jennie Gainsford)

Eris Parker provided an update on attendance at Windermere Rest Home, workshop on community outcomes review, Vision Cambridge Committee, Victoria Bridge Centenary Committee and receipt of Waikato Trust grant. She also mentioned some archaeological excavation work that has recently taken place outside the Museum.

Bev Dean circulated a photograph of bottles retrieved from the National Hotel site. The cup and saucer found during excavation is now at the Cambridge Museum.

**6.5 NZ Historic Places Trust** (Gail Henry, Jennie Gainsford)

No report.

**6.6 Department of Conservation** (Neville Ritchie)

No report.

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**6.7 Pirongia Historic Visitor Centre** (Sabina Owen, Alan Hall)

No report.

**6.8 Te Pahu District** (Heather Garrett)

Heather Garrett asked if the Heritage Council should be receiving advice about events taking place that have historical significance (such as the Rukuhia School celebrations on Labour Weekend). Mr Roxburgh said adding those kinds of events to the Council website is worthy of consideration. He said a heritage page is planned for the website and that would be the most appropriate place to list those kinds of events.

**6.9 Kihikihi District** (Max Quirk)

No report.

**6.10 Ohaupo District** (Annie Fullerton)

No report.

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## 7 CORRESPONDENCE

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**7.1 Inwards Correspondence**

- Letter from M Dillon (undated) regarding the Heritage Newsletter.
- Letter from NZ Lottery Grants Board dated 24 August 2007 regarding a grant from the Environment and Heritage Committee.

**7.2 Outwards Correspondence**

- Letter to Roger Swarbrick dated 25 July 2007.

**RESOLVED**

*That the inwards correspondence be received and the outwards correspondence approved.*

B Dean/S Lambert

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## 8 RESOURCE CONSENT APPLICATIONS

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The process for notifying Heritage Council members about resource consent applications and District Plan Changes was explained in the agenda. The following resource consent applications have been sent to members since the last meeting -

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- S McKenzie, 138 Mangare Road, Pukeatua (to operate a piggery) - closing date for submissions was 17 August 2007.
- EW Hulse, 766 French Pass Road, Cambridge (for a subdivision) was sent to Alan Hall, Neville Ritchie and Eris Parker - closing date for submissions was 19 September 2007.

A Resource Consent application for KC Curtis, 900 Franklin Street, Pirongia (for the construction of a grocery store) was enclosed with the agenda. Closing date for submissions is 2 October 2007.

Mary Hurst said there is a heritage component involved in this application because it is an important historical site. She said Lot 48 was originally on a one acre section which was subdivided in 1864 and was the site of William Sloane's chemist shop. The building next door (lot 52) was a grocery store and further on there was a blacksmith's and a hotel. Heather Garrett said the Heritage Council should make a submission in favour of the application because this area was originally the hub of Pirongia's commercial centre. The purpose of the submission would be to highlight the historical significance of the site.

### **RESOLVED**

*That the Waipa Heritage Council make a submission supporting the resource consent application to build a grocery store on part lot 48, Alexandra East at present known as the address 900 Franklin Street, Pirongia on heritage grounds.*

M Hurst/H Garrett

## **9 MATTERS DISCUSSED AT THE LAST BIODIVERSITY COUNCIL MEETING**

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Alan Hall provided a report on matters discussed at the last Biodiversity Council meeting that have implications for the Heritage Council. A draft copy of the "Information Handout" on Biodiversity Council members was available at the meeting for comment.

Mary Hurst asked if the Heritage Council could receive a summary of the Biodiversity Council agenda so members are aware of issues being discussed. Bev Dean asked if any field trips planned for the Biodiversity Council could also include Heritage Council members who may be interested in attending.

## **10 APPLICATION FOR MINOR ADDITIONS AND ALTERATIONS TO SOUTER HOUSE, CAMBRIDGE**

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Report of Council Planner, Anna McLellan, dated 31 August 2007 was provided for Heritage Council members' information.

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### **11 LAKE NGAROTO RECREATION RESERVE**

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Heritage Council members were advised Council has publicly notified its intention to review the Lake Ngaroto Reserve Management Plan. This will provide an opportunity to consider the conservation and management of heritage and archaeological features, and interpretation of the same, around the lake. The submission period expires on 20 October 2007.

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### **12 WAIPA HERITAGE COUNCIL UNRESOLVED RECOMMENDATIONS**

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The schedule of Waipa Heritage Council unresolved recommendations as at 19 July 2007 was included in the agenda. It was agreed to review the list at the next meeting.

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### **13 ITEMS FOR NEXT WAIPA HERITAGE COUNCIL MEETING**

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Items for the next meeting to be provided to the secretary 14 days before each meeting.

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### **14 NEXT MEETING**

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The next meeting of the Waipa Heritage Council will be held on Thursday 15 November 2007 in the Committee Room, Cambridge Service Centre, 23 Wilson Street, Cambridge commencing at 10.00am.

Meeting closed 12.37pm.